

**How to Rob a Bank.**

*Full Particulars of the Robbery of the Windham Bank—The Clerk Gagged—The Dog Poisoned—The Clerk's Presence of Mind—Pursuit and Arrest of the Burglars.*

One of the most daring and successful robberies ever perpetrated in this State took place at the Windham Bank, in the town of Windham, on Friday night last. The particulars of this affair are substantially as follows:

It has been the practice at this bank for many years for the clerk to sleep in the bank. The present clerk, James Parsons, a young man eighteen years of age, has for some two years past done this, and has had for his companion a valuable dog, belonging to the cashier. The dog was usually left in the bank in the evening, and the clerk would go in for the night about 9 o'clock. This was the case on Friday night last—a night which, it will be remembered, was exceedingly dark and stormy. The cashier left the bank some time after candle-light, shutting in the dog as usual. About 9 o'clock Parsons entered the bank and quickly locked the outer door, taking out the key. As he passed through the inner or swinging door he recognized by the feeble light of a dark lantern the forms of three men standing in front of him, but before he could utter a word he was seized by the throat by two of them, his mouth was stopped, and he was told that if he made a sound he would have his brains blown out. A handkerchief was at once bound over his eyes, he was seated in a chair, his boots were removed, his ankles bound together with a rope, his hands were bound firmly behind him, and a gag with a handkerchief wrapped around it was placed in his mouth, and tied with a string around the back of his head.

In this condition he was taken into the back room and thrown upon his bed, and the body of the dog was placed upon the bed with him. One of the robbers then seated himself by the bed, as a watcher, and the others went to work. The dog, it seemed, had been fed with poisoned meat during the evening—the rascals, it is supposed, having opened the outside door with a false key, just far enough to slip in slices of meat until he was silenced. Soon after they had commenced work the dog partially revived, and by an effort threw himself on the floor, and crawled under the bed, where, supposing he might make further noise, one of them said to another—"Smith, give us your dirk, we must silence this dog." The dirk was at once used upon the poor animal, and his body was thrown into the back room.

After an hour and a half's hard labor they succeeded in wrenching off the outer door of the vault, when they discovered that they had still another and apparently a much stronger door to go through. This unexpected impediment greatly enraged them. They cursed and swore terribly. They went to Parsons and removed the gag from his mouth and asked him if there was still a safe inside the vault; there was not, but he told them there was, and he supposed this would discourage them from proceeding further. They then asked them where the keys were. He told them that they were at the cashier's house. Then said one, let us go and get them. This they discussed in a low voice, and finally decided it would not pay, and went to work again. The tools they used were simply a chisel and hammer, and steel bars framed with a kind of chisel on one end, and a curve on the other for prying. They would cut into the stone at the side of the door, until they had formed a hole large enough to enter their bars, and then break off the hinges and bolt of the door by main force.

In this manner, after about four hours, they forced the inner door. They were not long after this in packing up their booty.—They then went to Parsons, examined the cords that bound his hands, laid him on his side, carefully tucked him up in his bed, locked the door of his room, and went out, locking the outside door after them. In less than five minutes after they left the room, Parsons was unbound, and at liberty. It seems that in their anxiety not to hurt his wrists with the cords, they had first placed a handkerchief on each wrist, and bound the

cords over them. By vigorously rubbing the handkerchiefs he succeeded in removing one of them from under the cord. This, of course, loosened the cord so that the other fell out easily, and both being out, the cord was so loose that he easily drew his hands out. To unbind his feet, mouth and eyes, and open his window and spring to the ground, was but the work of a moment.

He soon roused the cashier and president, and in fact the whole village was astir before the robbers had fairly left town. The fleetest horses were soon brought out, and messengers were dispatched in every direction. Two of the messengers came to this city to watch the morning Boston train, but discovered no trace of the rogues. It was soon ascertained that they went from the bank over to Willimantic, where they took a hand car and came to Norwich, leaving the car by the side of the track in the vicinity of the Falls. The presumption then was that they were not far from this city.

On Saturday morning a dispatch was sent to Boston for a detachment from the police force from that city, when officers Ham and Heath came on at once. On consultation it was concluded that the rogues would probably go to Allyn's Point and there take the boat to New York or the cars to Boston.—Indeed, officer Emmerson, of this city, had traced them, as he was confident, to the vicinity of the Point. When the evening train went to the Point, sheriff Bliss, with deputies Payne and Chappel, and officer Emmerson and the Boston officers went in it. Mr. Tingley, a keeper of a public house in Willimantic, where the suspected rogues had stopped for several days prior to the robbery, was also of the number.

When the passengers came aboard the boat, Tingley at once recognized his boarders, and after the boat left the wharf they were arrested, taken into a state-room, and about \$8,000 found on them. They of course were invited to stop at New London. Sheriff Bliss and Mr. Heath proceeded to New York with the boat to search for their baggage. This they succeeded in finding, with about thirteen thousand dollars of the money.

The whole amount of money taken from the bank was \$23,784.40, about \$7,000 of which was in gold, \$2,000 in bills of other banks, and the balance in bills of the bank. The whole amount recovered has been \$20,758.

The rogues give their names as Jones, Crandall, Scott and Wilson. One seems to have acted as watchman outside the bank, one watched the clerk, and the other two performed the work. Their bars and chisels were all found near the bank, secreted under a bridge. They are all young men, ranging, we should judge, from 24 to 28 years of age. We saw them in the jail in New London, on Monday, where they are now confined.—One of them says he has a wife and two children, one a wife and no children, and two are unmarried. Three of them claim to be natives of New York, and one of Vermont. They are to be taken to Windham to-day and examined.

Upon the persons of the rogues when they were arrested were found loaded revolvers, (one of them contained six heavy ball charges,) which were fired off by the officer on Monday, and dirks, which they were evidently prepared to use, should occasion require.

The courage and presence of mind exhibited by the boy Parsons in this case was manly. Considering the terror of the scene through which he had passed, and the certainty that he would be murdered in an instant if any of the rogues should be lingering around the bank to watch him when he jumped from the window, and the total darkness without, and the storm, which would prevent him from being seen or heard by any one in the village, we think his conduct was certainly worthy of great praise. His promptness saved all.

The credit of tracing the robbers from this city in the direction of the Point, and holding the officers to the track, must be given to officer Emmerson, of this city.—[Norwich Aurora, Nov. 22d.]

Gen. Sam. Houston, of Texas, was lately baptised by immersion.

There is war in Grass valley. Lola Montez is in the field. After a retirement of a year, she has emerged from her secluded retreat, up in the mountains of California. The editor of the Grass Valley Telegraph had written something that displeased her, and thereupon the tiger within her again took possession of her beautiful person. With the offensive paper in one hand, and a horse whip in the other, she sought her victim.—The accounts of the meeting are conflicting. Lola says she struck the ass four blows, and kicked him three times. Another account says, when she struck at the editor, he took the whip from her hands and very coolly stood his ground and laughed at her rage. She called on the honest miners to help her, but they did not respond. She then invited them to the nearest saloon, to take a drink, but they declined.

We doubt whether the Countess made her expenses in that operation. Sutshe has kept herself before the people. Great country, that California! Great woman, that Lola!—[O. S. Jour.]

THE WYANDOTS.—Rev. Mr. Goode, formerly of Indiana, in a letter from Lawrence City, Kasas, states the following matters in regard to the wishes of the Wyandot Indians. We venture to assert that the delegation will not accomplish their object. It is opposed to the settled policy of the government, and we know of no case (except perhaps the interests of slavery in Neosho,) that will be likely to induce a change. Mr. Goode says:

"The Wyandots have determined to ask for a treaty providing for a partition of their lands among themselves, to be held in severalty, instead of the joint occupancy now existing amongst them and all the Indian tribes. They do not propose to sell, having no lands to spare. They are satisfied with their home, having a body of the land in Kansas, and that considerably improved.—They ask also for a discontinuance of their annuities, and the payment of the principal of all the funds now vested for their benefit—the amount to be distributed among them *per capita*, with the privilege henceforward of managing their own affairs. They further ask to be received and recognized as citizens of the United States, with all the rights and privileges of other citizens. A delegation of six is elected to visit Washington for the purpose. The demand is reasonable and just. It embraces precisely the points advocated by myself, in some articles on our Indian policy published in your paper last spring. I trust it will be granted."

Just before the passage of the Maine law I came out of a little establishment in N—, of a dark and rainy evening, behind a very drunken fellow, who "beat up" the sidewalk a little in advance. Presently he "missed stays" on the "starboard tack," and ran into a tree. He pulled off what was originally intended for a hat, "teetered" a moment on his toes, and apologized to the jostled individual, with a hiccup between every other word:

"Schuze me, sir; I shure you, shir, 'tirely 'tentional on my part. Sho dark, shir, I didn't shue you. Schuze me, sir, schuze me, sir, 'f you please."

After which obsequious explanation, and an abortive attempt to put on his hat, he essayed to continue on his way; but brought up again on the first lurch, against the same tree:

"I really beg your pardon, shir; I'm afraid you'll think I'm tossed; but I shure you, shir, I never was more sober in all my life. It's very dark and splashy, and really shir, I 'shposed you'd gone along."

BOOTS AND SHOES MADE BY MACHINERY.—A foreign correspondent of the Boston Traveler, says a patent has been taken out in England for making boots and shoes by machinery. So favorable are the prospects that a public company has advanced \$25,000 to erect the necessary machinery, by the river side, at Pimlico, and the worth of the invention has been estimated at millions of money. It will undersell and ruin the vast quantities of very indifferent articles now produced, chiefly from Northamptonshire, and it is stated that it will furnish 17,000 pair per diem of stoutly finished boots or shoes.—[Democracy.]

VERMONT.—The Boston Advertiser has an article upon the anomalous council of censors in Vermont, which is chosen once in seven years, and serves, the Advertiser thinks, as a sort of safety-valve for the schemes of reformers. This council is to be again chosen in March. Its duties are to see whether the constitution has been preserved inviolate during the preceeding septennary; whether the legislature and executive performed their duty; whether the laws have been duly executed; and whether, finally, the constitution needs any amendment. If it does, they propose amendments, which are voted upon by the people. From 1792, when the constitution was framed, no amendments were adopted until 1827. In 1834, an important change was introduced, in the establishment of the senate, the legislative business having been previously conducted by one branch.

GENERAL PUTNAM'S WOLF DEN.—A gentleman who recently visited the den in Pomfret, down which Old Put descended with a rope round his leg and a musket in his hand, describes it as being at least twenty-six feet long, and on an average two feet square, though in some parts much wider. It extends directly into the mountain, and is slightly descending. The wall above and on either side is of rock. It is so formed that a furious she wolf could keep at bay as many dogs as could be sent against her. She was crouched in the farthest end, upon a shelving rock, and "the passage being rather crooked, the General must have penetrated at least ten feet, and probably more, unless he had a gun so favorably contrived that he could shoot round a haystack." The visitor crept in a distance of twenty feet, and since there was no wolf there, he regretted that he did not meet with a few rattlesnakes, to make the descent a little perilous.—[Boston Chronicle.]

The annual amount of the lead product of the United States is estimated at from 18,000 to 20,000 tons, which is supplied by the States of Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri, Arkansas, Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York. Besides this, about 20,000 tons are annually imported from foreign countries, of which England and Spain furnish by far the greater portion. Considerable is brought from France, but this is mostly mined in Spain.

It is stated that when the olive crop is short in Spain, and southern France, large orders for lard oil come to Cincinnati from those regions. It is fair to suppose that it comes back in due time, converted into the best olive oil. A similar process is now going on in another department. Cincinnati whiskey is going to France, and it will soon return as very fine pale French brandy. Better let all such stuff pass.

The administration has given another illustration of its devotion to the great principle elucidated in the stump speeches on the Nebraska bill, the doctrine of squatter sovereignty. The president has appointed Lieut. Col. Steptoe, of the army, governor of Utah, and the senate will unquestionably confirm him. In all this there is a wonderful preservation of the unities of the modern democracy. Col. Steptoe commands the U. S. garrison in Utah. He has with him five hundred men and a proportionate number of camp followers in the pay of the government. His appointment therefore is exactly equivalent to placing in this responsible civil office the first battalion of the 2d artillery. How the squatter sovereigns will receive the deposition of their chief priest, Governor Brigham Young, cannot be known for the next three months, but it is supposed that they will prove temporarily uproarious.—However, his excellency of the 1st battalion of the 2d artillery, will immediately produce his credentials, to wit, the great guns and the short swords of his command, and will expound to the sovereigns the principle of the new democratic doctrine, which is passive obedience to the powers that be.

PROPELLER LOST.—The propeller Westmoreland, which has been missing for some time, is now known to have sunk near Sleeping Bear Island, in Lake Michigan. 17 lives were lost. The captain, clerk, and 14 others were saved.